



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# Reality or exaggeration? Reflections of Mesopotamian religious beliefs in the image repertoire of the Iron Age

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## Abstract

The material culture created by the Assyrians and Babylonians during the first half of the first millennium B.C. provides insights into social, economic, political, and religious notions widespread in that era. The creation of litanies, statues, offerings, and temples was intended to establish a connection between the upper world and sacred heaven. Deities and ritual scenes were favored subject matters in the Neo-Assyrian and Neo-Babylonian artworks. This study is based on the anthropomorphism and materiality of notions during the Iron Age. Furthermore, it proposes the power of the image repertoire from the viewpoint of royal families and commoners. Finally, the results of the iconographical evaluation and analogies between both periods reveal new insights and answers to the question; to what extent did the adoration and ritual scenes reflect Mesopotamian life?

## Keywords

Iconography , Materiality of notions , Divine world, Religion, Iron Age

## Session

4. The materiality of inscribed and figurative objects

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